

4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
~ Matthew 16:18



August 28, 2011

Contact Us:

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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship..... 10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service..... 2:30 PM
Worship..... 6:00 PM

Tuesday:

Redstone Class..... 9:30 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class On Break
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Jim Moore

Don Smith..... James Thomas

Preacher:

Ryan Smithey.....

Works We Support:

Belize Mission & Kindergarten
Cherokee Home for Children
Food Pantry
Gospel Broadcast Network
Gospel Chariot Missions
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
House to House, Heart to Heart
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.

THE MIND OF CHRIST

By J.A. McNutt

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Phil. 2:5).

Among all of the commandments of God addressed to his children, this is perhaps the most difficult to obey. The average Christian can control his actions and curb his tongue with some degree of success, but what an endless conflict he wages trying to bring his thoughts into "captivity to the will of Christ." Have you been able to dismiss every thought of anger, wrath, malice, envy and jealousy from your mind? How long have you had to fight such unworthy thoughts as these which poison the hearts and shrivel the souls of men? Do you suppose that the Lord ever harbored and cherished such things in his mind? Do you think that the Lord was ever bitter, critical, and as devoid of kindness and consideration as we often are? In other words, do we have the mind of Christ?

THE MIND IS THE SOURCE OF ACTION

The Wise man's assertion, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he," has been demonstrated so many times in life, that it needs no proof. It has been proved by universal experience. The good tree is certain to bear good fruit and the corrupt tree will bear evil fruit, such is in keeping with the nature of the two trees. A mind filled with unwholesome thoughts cannot result in a righteous life.

Jesus said, "Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies" (Mt. 15: 19). In view of this fact you can understand why Jesus struck a blow at the fountain source of all sin by condemning the evil thought which prompts an unrighteous action. "For to be carnally minded is death but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Rom. 8:6). The attitude of mind therefore determines whether we shall live or die spiritually.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MIND OF CHRIST

If one must have the mind of Christ to be saved eternally (and the Bible so teaches) it is vital that we know something of the mind of the Lord. What was the mind of Christ? What was his attitude toward the various issues of life? Furthermore, one needs to know how to cultivate the right kind of thinking, so that he may have the mind of Christ. It is not impossible to attain because Paul said, concerning Christians, "But we have the mind of Christ" (1 Cor. 2: 16).

Our Lord was patient and longsuffering toward those who opposed him, and Paul used this fact to encourage Christians who were discouraged by persecution. "For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds," (Heb. 12:13).

He was always submissive and obedient to the will of God (Lk. 22:42). The path of obedience is not often strewn with roses. It is often rugged and hard to

(Continued on page 2)



*Recompense to no man evil for evil.
Provide things honest in the sight of all men.
If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.
Romans 12:17-18*

travel and requires sacrifice upon our part. One of the most marvelous things about Jesus, to my mind, is that he could suffer all the abuse and sufferings of Calvary and still be submissive to the Father's will and manifest a spirit of forgiveness toward his enemies.

His humility and condescension serve to shame us when we are tempted to become proud and boastful. "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" (2 Cor. 8:9). If you will open your New Testament and read Phil. 2:5-11 you will wonder how the Lord could have humbled and shamed himself so much for our sakes.

Why did my savior come to earth,
And to the humble go?
Why did he choose a lowly birth?
Because he loved me so.

Christ had a mind to work. No man ever crowded such intense activity into so short a time as Jesus did during the three years of his public ministry. He was a busy man, who made the Father's business his primary purpose in life. Thus we hear him saying in John 9:4, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work." Lazy and indifferent church members should be aroused from their lethargy by the example of Jesus. The Lord became tired and weary under the pressure of duty and paused for rest. He realized the need of solitude and meditation at times but Jesus was never idle.

Who is the "Biggest Preacher" and the "Greatest Christian" in the world today? If you mean the "Greatest" in the Lord's sight (and no other appraisal will count in judgment), it is the one who renders the greatest service (Mt. 10:43,44). What are you doing in the Lord's work? Only those who have a mind to work are pleasing unto God.

HOW CAN WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST?

One must first cultivate a knowledge of the life and character of the Lord, before he can become like him. The heathen man who said to the missionary, "Christ is wonderful, but you Christians are not like him," stated a truth which will have to be acknowledged by most of us. A

prominent writer wrote a book a few years ago called, *The Man Nobody Knows*. Christ is that man who is so little known and understood by the world in general. We cannot be like him until we understand the principles of righteousness for which he lived and died.

Every child of God on earth is expected to become a partaker of the divine nature "having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Pet. 1:4). We are further told that, "if any man have not the spirit of Christ he is none of his" (Rom. 8:9). This passage evidently refers not to the Holy Spirit, but to the spirit, disposition, or attitude of mind which characterized our Lord. Do we have his love for humanity, his sympathy for the poor and distressed? If not, we do not have the spirit of Christ and are therefore "none of his." Isn't this the meaning of the passage? If so, we can understand why Paul said, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."

We become like Christ by following his example along the pathway of life. "For even hereunto were you called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps; Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth" (1 Pet. 2:21,22).

WHEN WILL WE WEAR HIS PERFECT LIKENESS?

In our greatest efforts to become like our Lord we are but poor imitations of Christ our King. He is perfect and our lives are filled with imperfection, but some day we hope to bear his perfect likeness. "But we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (1 Jno. 3:2).

We have a song in our songbooks which expresses our desire to be like the Lord:

O to be like thee! Blessed Redeemer;
This is my constant, longing and prayer;
Gladly I'll forfeit all of earth's treasures,
Jesus, Thy perfect likeness to wear.
O to be like thee! full of compassion,
Loving, forgiving, tender and kind,
Helping the helpless, cheering the fainting,
Seeking the wandering sinner to find.

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Daily Bible Reading Schedule
The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB	Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).	"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)
In Search of the Lord's Way Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB	Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)	Sun: Psalms 80-84 1 Corinthians 2
Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org	Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)	Mon: Psalms 85-88 1 Corinthians 3
Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208	Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)	Tue: Psalms 89-90 1 Corinthians 4
Radio Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3	Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16) Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)	Wed: Psalms 91-94 1 Corinthians 5 Thu: Psalms 95-101 1 Corinthians 6 Fri: Ps 102-103 1 Cor. 7:1-24 Sat: Ps 104-105 1 Cor. 7:25-40



Abraham is courteous to strangers

By Mike Glenn

One of the most fascinating events of the Bible is found in our text, Gen. 18:1-16. Abraham has the opportunity to entertain angels and the Lord. But, he did not know at the first that was who they were. So far as he knew, there were three travelers who happened by his home. His courtesy was exemplary. Notice the totality of his courtesy.

- His courtesy was automatic. As soon as he saw them, his characteristic of courtesy took over his actions. Being courteous was not just something he remembered to do. He so much thought of himself as a servant to others that courtesy was part of his character. Parents, we do well when we devote great time in teaching and modeling consideration for others to our children.

- He ran to meet them from the tent door. He was anxious to show his courtesy. He was anxious. He did not see this courtesy as a burden, but an opportunity. I am reminded again of our slogan, 'Courtesy opens doors.' It is well worth remembering.

- He addressed one of them as Lord and bowed himself to the ground. No pride told him he should act like their equal or that he should treat them as "only" as good as himself. He gave the accepted, though not always common, greeting of courtesy. Our courtesy will help us to build relationships. Let's cultivate it in ourselves.

Visitation Meeting

Remember our visitation meeting each Sunday night following the evening worship to sign cards and discuss the work going on. Please join us each time. Last week 26 contacts were made.

Remember...

Next Sunday we will have our first **Sunday fellowship** meal following the morning worship...hope you can make plans to join us.

- He wanted them to be rested and comfortable. In showing courtesy, we are, of course, trying to bring peacefulness, acceptance, comfort and value to those to whom we express it.
- Had food prepared for them. Consider that this was not a microwave meal. Abraham's courtesy in hospitality expended much energy. I remember a story in which a teacher was leaving an island where she had had a great impact upon the local students. As a going away present, one of the young men gave her a simple but beautiful seashell. The teacher, knowing the island and that the only place one could get such a shell was many hours walk away, commented on how far the student must have gone. The student replied, "Long walk is part of gift." When our courtesy, like Abraham's, "goes to the trouble" of much effort, it expresses the value we place upon the recipient whom we may have just met.
- Verse 16 says that Abraham even escorted them a small distance to "show them on their way." His courtesy was thorough. There was never an indication that he wished they would leave so he could go back to his life. At that moment in time, his life was about his courtesy to them.

Let's mimic Abraham. Courtesy opens doors.

Celebrate

"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15)

August Birthdays: Michael Fuller (10), Don Smith (14), Royce Ford (16), Betty Bailey (28), Roy Dodson (29).

August Anniversaries: Kaci & Matthew Churchwell (15), Pam & Terry Teague (16), Darlene & Don Smith (29).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	August 14, 2011	August 21, 2011
Bible Class	50	68
AM Worship	73	89
PM Worship	47	57
Wednesday PM	48	50
Contribution	\$1697	\$1455

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1)

This Week: 8/28/11		Next Week: 9/04/11		August 2011	
Sunday AM:				Make Announcements: Garrett Barnum Prepare Communion: Allen & Linda Griffith Clean Building: John Barnum Family Keep Grounds: Jim Moore September 2011 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Jim & Peg Moore Clean Building: Ryan & Priscilla Smithey Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox	
Greeters	John Barnum Family	Tom & Carol Wilcox			
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	Garrett Barnum			
Communion	Ken Maninger*, Garrett Barnum John Barnum, Ken Makuta	James Thomas*, John Barnum Tom Wilcox, Hank Wheeler			
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Ken Makuta			
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey			
Sunday PM:					
Opening Prayer	Jim Moore	Michael Bickford			
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler Psalm 62:5-7	James Fuller			
Communion	Ken Maninger	James Thomas			
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Matthew Churchwell			
Wednesday Devotionals:	August 31 Garrett Barnum	September 7 James Fuller	September 14 Jim Moore	September 21 Don Smith	

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

Studies for the week of August 28, 2011		Sunday Class Galatians (Chap. 5-6)	Wednesday Class Zechariah (Chap. 8-9)
<p>Attitudes We Face (Matthew 11) We see how Jesus faced common attitudes that we face in others and sometimes ourselves...</p> <p>1) Doubt (v1-15)</p> <p>a) John was seeking answers (v2-3). He had proclaimed Jesus as the savior of the world (John 1:29-30) but when doubt arose, he sought a response from Jesus.</p> <p>b) Jesus asks him to examine the evidence (v4-6). See the things being done which prophets foretold (Isa. 29:18; 35:4-6; 61:1).</p> <p>c) He even addresses doubts the crowd may have concerning John (v7-15); John was doing what the prophets said (v10, Mal. 3:1).</p> <p>d) Doubt should always be confronted with the honest evaluation of evidence (Heb. 11:1, 6; 1 Pet. 3:15; Acts 17:2-3).</p> <p>2) Dissatisfaction (v16-19)</p> <p>a) Regardless of the evidence some just will not be satisfied, nothing can please them.</p> <p>b) To them there is nothing to say; if they won't honestly consider the evidence, they will not be convinced nor have faith (cf. Matt. 13:15; Rom. 10:1-3, 17; John 20:30-31; Acts 13:45-46).</p> <p>3) Defiance (v20-24)</p> <p>a) These too refuse evidence placed before them, refusing to repent even though Jesus did most of His mighty works here.</p> <p>b) Such defiance was without excuse; they failed to properly processing the evidence and act on it (cf. 1 Kings 18:21; Rom. 1:20; Lk. 16:31; 2 Tim. 3:15; James 1:22 Acts 2:40)</p> <p>4) Dependency (v25-27)</p> <p>a) Jesus knows not all will believe, but that does not change His view, God is still Lord of heaven and earth!</p> <p>b) Then Jesus calls on us to have the same response, having examined the evidence, follow Him (cf. Matt. 7:24-27).</p>		<p>Important Lessons From The Psalms The psalms present many practical lessons that we would do well to learn:</p> <p>1. There Is A God In Heaven – They knew Him as the creator and their God and its showed in their life (Ps. 19:1, 14:1, 53:1, 8; cf. Rom. 1:20, 12:1-2).</p> <p>2. Respect God's Word – Psalm 119 beautifully extols God's Word as pure (v140; 12:6), right (v128; 33:4), truth (142, 151, 160), awe inspiring (v161), precious (v127), and protective/guiding (11, 105); such it should be to us (Jn 17:17, 8:31-32, 1 Tim. 4:15-16, Rom. 10:17).</p> <p>3. Righteous Living Is To Be Valued Over Riches – better to be spiritually rich than physically (37:16; cf. Lk. 16:19-31; Matt. 16:26) but to be spiritually rich we must live a righteous life (15:2-5, 119:172; cf. Acts 10:35; 1 John 3:7).</p> <p>4. Life Is Short – Our time here is brief and thus is to be spent wisely (39:5; 90:10, 12; cf. Eccl. 12:13; Eph. 5:15-16; James 4:14).</p> <p>5. Sin Is Destructive – regardless of how it presents itself, sin has consequences (137:1; 9:17) and brings with it heavy weight (38, 51). Such is true still (Rom. 6:23, 16).</p> <p>6. God Is Always There – in the good or bad, the psalmist knew where to turn (46; 16:1, 18:2, 20:7; 25:2; 91:2, 118:8, cf. 2 Cor. 1:3; 2 Tim. 4:16-17; 1 Pet. 5:7; Heb. 13:5).</p>	